

“(c) STUDENT IMPROVEMENT INCENTIVE AWARDS.—

“(1) AWARDS.—A State educational agency may use funds made available for State use under this title to make awards to public schools in the State that are determined to be outstanding schools pursuant to a statewide assessment described in paragraph (2).

“(2) STATEWIDE ASSESSMENT.—The statewide assessment referred to in paragraph (1)—

“(A) shall—

“(i) determine the educational progress of students attending public schools within the State; and

“(ii) allow for an objective analysis of the assessment on a school-by-school basis; and

“(B) may involve exit exams.”.

AMENDMENT NO. 2301

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will now be 2 minutes of debate prior to a vote on or in relation to the Landrieu amendment No. 2301. Who yields time?

Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, could I have some order, please?

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, may we have order? The Senator is entitled to be heard.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will be in order. The Senator from Louisiana.

Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, as this body knows, many on both sides of this aisle support blue ribbon schools because we believe that we should begin rewarding excellence, funding results, and we should stop funding failures. Blue ribbon schools are chosen by their States every year. Some of them are public—many of them. Some of them are private. Some of them are parochial. When they achieve against the odds and when their students succeed, we call them to Washington and they come, 250 of them every year. We give them a beautiful, shiny plaque and a big blue ribbon and we send them home with nothing else but the plaque and the blue ribbon. They are happy to get it, but what they really want and need are some resources to continue doing their good work.

So I think this is a better way to spend the \$1.5 billion. Instead of helping just a few people in America, we can help all of our schools and begin rewarding results. That is what this amendment does, the blue ribbon school amendment. I ask my colleagues to support it.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The time of the Senator has expired. Who yields time? The Senator from Georgia.

Mr. COVERDELL. Mr. President, there is certainly nothing wrong with an amendment that tries to improve blue ribbon schools. But the amendment by the Senator from Louisiana guts the underlying premise of the bill. What is substituted here is pretty simple. You have 250 schools that would receive a grant of \$100,000, or you have 20 million children and 14 million families that will benefit all across the Nation. In balance, there is just no comparison at all. So I would simply say again her amendment guts the underlying premise we have been debating for 6 months and exchanges assistance to

200-some-odd schools for 14 million families.

I urge the defeat of the amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The yeas and nays have not yet been ordered.

Mr. COVERDELL. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the amendment. The yeas and nays have been ordered.

The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

The result was announced—yeas 34, nays 66, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 97 Leg.]

YEAS—34

Akaka	Harkin	Mikulski
Bingaman	Hollings	Moseley-Braun
Boxer	Inouye	Moynihan
Bumpers	Johnson	Murray
Conrad	Kennedy	Reed
Daschle	Kerrey	Robb
Dodd	Kerry	Rockefeller
Dorgan	Kohl	Sarbanes
Durbin	Landrieu	Wellstone
Feingold	Lautenberg	Wyden
Ford	Leahy	
Glenn	Levin	

NAYS—66

Abraham	Domenici	Lugar
Allard	Enzi	Mack
Ashcroft	Faircloth	McCain
Baucus	Feinstein	McConnell
Bennett	Frist	Murkowski
Biden	Gorton	Nickles
Bond	Graham	Reid
Breaux	Gramm	Roberts
Brownback	Grams	Roth
Bryan	Grassley	Santorum
Burns	Gregg	Sessions
Byrd	Hagel	Shelby
Campbell	Hatch	Smith (NH)
Chafee	Helms	Smith (OR)
Cleland	Hutchinson	Snowe
Coats	Hutchison	Specter
Cochran	Inhofe	Stevens
Collins	Jeffords	Thomas
Coverdell	Kempthorne	Thompson
Craig	Kyl	Thurmond
D'Amato	Lieberman	Torricelli
DeWine	Lott	Warner

The amendment (No. 2301) was rejected.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will now resume consideration of Levin amendment No. 2303 on which there shall be 30 minutes of debate equally divided.

Mr. LEVIN addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Michigan.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I yield 1 minute to my good friend from Louisiana on an unrelated matter.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Louisiana.

Ms. LANDRIEU. Thank you, Mr. President. I thank my colleague from Michigan.

TAKE OUR DAUGHTERS TO WORK DAY

Ms. LANDRIEU. Today, Mr. President, and colleagues, is a very special day in America. We are celebrating here in the Senate, and millions of people around our Nation are celebrating

this special day. It is “Take Our Daughters to Work Day.” And mothers and fathers and aunts and uncles and friends are taking their special charges to work with them to see perhaps a side of life that some young girls do not get to see.

It is the sixth year that our Nation has celebrated in this way. I wanted to just say for the record that we have made a lot of progress in our Nation in the past 30 years. In 1968, only 20 percent of 18- to 24-year-old women were enrolled in college. Today, thank goodness that number is climbing, and we are at 36 percent.

The median earnings for women in 1968 was only \$18,500. Today, women earn an average of \$23,000. We are making progress, but not enough.

I saw a statistic the other day that still 80 percent of all women who work out of the home earn less than \$25,000, earning 74 cents on every dollar earned by their male counterparts.

In 1968, women owned fewer than 5 percent of the Nation's businesses. That number has doubled, and I am proud to say that there are more people employed by women-owned businesses than all the Fortune 500 companies in the country. So we are making progress.

Today is a day to honor the progress that is being made. But it is also a day to encourage our young girls, particularly in the ages of 9 to 15, to reach for their dreams, to expand their horizons, to consider all the great options that are available for them as they think about beginning to make choices about their careers. They can balance home life and work life and they can choose careers that were unheard of just a few years ago.

I hope some of these young girls who are here today with us will think about the Senate, I say to our colleague from Michigan, to think about encouraging more young women to run here for the Senate.

So I thank my colleagues for giving me this time to recognize this day. I want to welcome my niece with me today, Gracie Landrieu, who came up—my daughter is only 10 months old, so she is a little too young to appreciate today. But she is going to be with me for a few minutes later today. But my niece, who is 10, can most certainly appreciate the great challenges before her. And I wish her all the best, as we do all of our daughters across America.

Thank you.

EDUCATION SAVINGS ACT FOR PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SCHOOLS

The Senate continued with the consideration of the bill.

AMENDMENT NO. 2303

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, first I ask unanimous consent that Senators BINGAMAN and MURRAY be added as co-sponsors to my amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, this amendment provides a tax credit to